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DT01 Rec'd PCT/PT7 2 2 DEC 2004

[12928/10021]

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventor(s)

Dominique HERTZ et al.

Serial No.

To Be Assigned

Filed

Herewith

For

CLUSTER FOR ADJUSTING A NUCLEAR REACTOR

CORE REACTIVITY, ABSORBER ROD OF THE

CLUSTER AND METHOD FOR PROTECTING THE

ABSORBER ROD AGAINST WEAR

Examiner

To Be Assigned

Art Unit

To Be Assigned

Mail Stop: PCT

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT AND 37 C.F.R. § 1.125 SUBSTITUTE SPECIFICATION STATEMENT

SIR:

Kindly amend the above-captioned application before examination, as set forth below.

IN THE SPECIFICATION AND ABSTRACT:

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.121(b)(3), a Substitute Specification (including the Abstract, but without claims) accompanies this response. It is respectfully requested that the Substitute Specification (including Abstract) be entered to replace the Specification of record.

IN THE CLAIMS:

On the first page of the claims, first line, please add:

--WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:--.

Please cancel claims 1 to 12.

NY01 906709 v 1 1